

Message Text

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ACTION DLOS-06

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 IO-13 FEA-01 ACDA-07 AGRE-00
AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01 TRSE-00
H-01 INR-07 INT-05 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01
OES-06 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
SAL-01 OIC-02 /120 W
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R 250800Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8003
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 DAKAR 0552

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PLOS SG
SUBJECT: INTERSESSIONAL CONSULTATIONS ON LOS: SENEGAL

REF: 76 STATE 298001

1. SUMMARY: SENEGALESE MINISTRIES OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND
RURAL DEVELOPMENT PRESENT MAJOR LOS AND FISHERIES ISSUES
TO MEETINGS OF CABINET FOR PRESIDENT SENGHOR'S APPROVAL,
BUT BEST POINT OF CONTACT FOR SUBSTANTIVE DIALOGUE WITH
GOS ON LOS NEGOTIATIONS IS HEAD OF SENEGALESE DELEGATION
TO LOS CONFERENCE AMADOU MOCTAR CISSE. GOS SHARES OUR
VIEW OF IMPORTANCE OF BRINGING LOS CONFERENCE TO SUCCESSFUL
CONCLUSION, BUT ONLY DIRECT SUBSTANTIVE RESPONSE TO HIGH-
LEVEL US MESSAGES DURING LAST SESSION WAS OCTOBER 27 QUERY
ON INTERNATIONAL SEABED AUTHORITY. NEXT STAGE IN GOS
PREPARATIONS FOR MAY SESSION REPORTEDLY WILL BE FEBRUARY
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OAU MEETING IN LAGOS. POSITIVE USG-GOS BILATERAL
RELATIONSHIP AND SENEGALESE COMMITMENT TO "SYNOMIC
COMPROMISE" SHOULD PREDISPOSE GOS DELEGATION TO CONTINUING
CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE AT LOS CONFERENCE, BUT ITS DEDICATION TO
ADVANCING BROADLY-DEFINED LDC INTERESTS LIKELY TO PRODUCE HARD
BARGAINING ON SEABED AUTHORITY. END SUMMARY.

2. BEST POINT OF CONTACT WITH GOS ON LOS ISSUES REMAINS AMADOU MOCTAR VCISSE, AMBASSADOR TO SWITZERLAND AND PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO UN SPECIALIZED AGENCIES IN GENEVA AND IAEA IN VIENNA, WHO IS BOTH HEAD OF SENEGALESE DELEGATION TO LOS NEGOTIATIONS AND CHAIRMAN OF GOVERNMENT'S LOS COMMITTEE. COMMITTEE MEETS INTERMITTENTLY (MOST RECENTLY IN DECEMBER) TO DISCUSS GOS POSITION ON ISSUES BEFORE LOS CONFERENCE.

3. ALTHOUGH CISSE IS IN KEY POSITION TO SHAPE LOS POLICY, DECISIONS ON MAJOR MATTERS MUST BE APPROVED BY CABINET WHERE

MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS ASSANE SECK IS RESPONSIBLE FOR PRESENTATION OF LOS ISSUES AND PRESIDENT SENGHOR'S VIEWS ARE ULTIMATELY DETERMINANT. (SUBSEQUENT RATIFICATION BY NATIONAL ASSEMBLY IS LARGELY PRO FORMA EXERCISE.) MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND WATER RESOURCES UNDER MINISTER ADRIEN SENGHOR HAS ALSO EXERCISED CONSIDERABLE INFLUENCE OVER CERTAIN GOS POSITIONS ON LOS, SINCE DEVELOPMENT AND CONTROL OF OFFSHORE FISHING RESOURCES ARE FOREMOST LOS CONCERN FROM SENEGALESE PERSPECTIVE; 1976 LEGISLATION EXTENDING GOS ECONOMIC ZONE AND TERRITORIAL WATERS (76 DAKAR 1035, 2285, 4770) ORIGINATED IN SENGHOR'S MINISTRY. PRIME MINISTER ABDOU DIOUF COULD PLAY INFLUENTIAL ROLE IN ANY QUESTION BEFORE GOS, PARTICULARLY IN CASE OF DISPUTE BETWEEN MINISTRIES.

4. FOREIGN MINISTRY'S PRINCIPAL LOS STAFF OFFICER IS DOUDOU DIOP, DIRECTOR OF LEGAL AND CONSULAR AFFAIRS. MBAYE BA, DIRECTOR OF FISHINPAIN MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND WATER
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RESOURCES, PLAYS COMPARABLE ROLE IN HIS MINISTRY. BOTH ARE MEMBERS OF GOS DELEGATION TO LOS CONFERENCE. AMONG OTHER OFFICIALS IN GOS POSITION TO INFLUENCE LOS POLICIES ARE AMB. YOUSSEPH

SYLLA, FOREIGN MINISTRY CABINET DIRECTOR, WHO FORMERLY CHAIRED GOS WORKING GROUP ON LOS, AND IBRAHIMA MALICK DIA, WHO HEADED RECENTLY DISSOLVED GOVERNMENT BISHING COMPANY AND IS LONGTIME STUDENT OF LOS ISSUES.

5. THERE DO NOT APPEAR TO BE SUBSTANTIAL INPUTS FROM THE MILITARY, ACADEMIC OR BUSINESS COMMUNITIES INTO FORMULATION

OF SENEGALESE LOSHTOLICY, ALTHOUGH DRIVE TO STRENGTHEN NAVAL PATROL CAPABILITY IS PART AND PARCEL OF 1976 DECISION TO EXTEND ECONOMIC ZONE/TERRITORIAL WATERS, AND FOREIGN MINISTRY LOS PERSONNEL JOINED FORCES WITH UNIVERSITY LAW FACULTY IN LOCAL PUBLIC INFORMATION EFFORT ON LOS NEGOTIATIONS.

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R 250800Z JAN 77
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AMEMBASSY LAGOS
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6. WHILE MAJOR DECISIONS AND GENERAL PRINCIPLES ON LOS ISSUES
ARE WORKED OUT IN GOVERNMENT'S LOS COMMITTEE AND CABINET AND
APPROVED BY PRESIDENT SENGHOR, EMBASSY DOUBTS THAT CONCLUSIVE
INSTRUCTIONS ON NEGOTIATING TACTICS ARE SENT TO GOS DELEGATION
FROM DAKAR. PROBABILITY IS, RATHER, THAT DELEGATION HAS CONSIDERABLE

SCOPE IN PREPARING RECOMMENDATIONS AND NEGOTIATING COMPROMISES
ON TECHNICAL ISSUES, SUBJECT TO FINAL REVIEW IN DAKAR, EMBASSY
BELIEVES THAT GOS RECOGNIZES IMPORTANCE OF BRINGING LOS CONFERENCE
TO SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION, AND THAT IT CONSIDERS EVOLVING LOS
TREATY AS ONE WHICH WILL BE VALUABLE IN PROTECTING IMPORTANT
SENEGALESE INTERESTS. THERE ARE SIGNS THAT DELEGATION EXPECTS
TO WORK TOWARD REASONABLE COMPROMISES ON KEY REMAINING ISSUES SUCH
AS SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND INTERNATIONAL SEABED AUTHORITY.

7. NEXT FACTOR IN FORMULATION OF GOS POSITIONS FOR MAY SESSION
WILL BE MEETING OF LOS EXPERTS FROM OAU COUNTRIES REPORTEDLY
PROPOSED FOR FEBRUARY IN LAGOS. BELIEVE CISSE WOULD BE RECEPTIVE
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TO US INITIATIVE FOR BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS AT ANY TIME, AND

FOR CONTINUING EXCHANGES OF VIEWS BETWEEN NOW AND MAY. DURING LAST SESSION GOS DELEGATION WAS UNDER INSTRUCTIONS TO MAINTAIN CLOSE CONTACT WITH US COUNTERPARTS. WE QUESTION UTILITY OF PROPOSING DETAILED SUBSTANTIVE TALKS WITH DAKAR VENUE SINCE CISSE BASED IN GENEVA.

8. EMBASSY HOPES TO CONTINUE DISTRIBUTING COPIES TO GOVERNMENT LEADERS IN DAKAR OF MAJOR US INITIATIVES ON LOS. SPECIAL HIGH-LEVEL US MESSAGES, SUCH AS THOSE SENT TO FOREIGN MINISTER SECK IN CONJUNCTION WITH LAST LOS SESSION, ALSO MAKE POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION TO ATMOSPHERICS ON LOS ISSUES, THOUGH ONLY DIRECT SUBSTANTIVE REACTION OF WHICH EMBASSY IS AWARE WAS OCTOBER 27 QUERY ON ROLE OF SEABED AUTHORITY (76 DAKAR 7073); WOULD APPRECIATE ANY GUIDANCE ZLEPARTMENT CAN PROVIDE FOR RESPONSE.

9. OVERALL US-SENEGALESE BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP DURING PAST YEAR SAW HEIGHTENED PACE OF CONSULTATION, NOTABLY THROUGH KISSINGER, SCRANTON, PARKER, SCHAUFLE AND OTHER HIGH-LEVEL VISITS TO DAKAR. THIS DIALOGUE REFLECTED SUBSTANTIAL COINCIDENCE OF VIEWS, PARTICULARLY ON AFRICAN POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS. SENEGALESE ARE PLAYING LEADERSHIP ROLE IN SUCH OTHER INTERNATIONAL BODIES AS UNESCO AND IAEA (WHERE AMADOU CISSE IS CURRENT GOVERNING BOARD PRESIDENT); THEIR CONTRIBUTION IN THESE AGENCIES HAS GENERALLY REFLECTED NATION'S COMMITMENT TO DIALOGUE AND "DYNAMIC COMPROMISE" INSTEAD OF POLITICIZATION AND CONFRONTATION. THESE BASIC PRINCIPLES OF SENEGALESE FOREIGN POLICY, REINFORCED BY CURRENT GOOD BILATERAL RELATIONS, SHOULD PREDISPOSE SENEGALESE DELEGATION TO CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE AT NEXT LOS SESSION.

10. HOWEVER, SENEGALESE ADVOCACY OF NEW INTZGNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER AFFECTS GOS APPROACH TO INTERNATIONAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS INCLUDING LOS CONFERENCE, AND WILL IMPEL

IT TO DRIVE HARD DEAL ON QUESTIONS PITTING BROAD LDC INTERESTS AGAINST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, PARTICULARLY POWERS OF SEABED
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3514603
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INTERSESSIONAL CONSULTATIONS ON LOS: SENEGAL
TAGS: PLOS, SG
To: STATE ADDIS ABABA
Type: TE
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